

A New Heaven and a New Earth

Sunday, November 16, 2025



Thanksgiving Sunday has come and gone; however, let us continue to live in gratitude for all God has given us. Grateful for family, friends, church and a faith community that is there with us, supporting us in our living.

May we continue to count our many blessings and name them one by one.

Our Vision

To live as Christ would have us live, in love, with compassion and seeking justice, by sharing God's grace, learning from scripture, growing through the Spirit and being transformed by faith.

There are many ways to get involved at St. Andrew's. Everyone is welcome so please reach out and step into places that inspire you the most. More details on our website.

FIND YOUR PLACE

WASHROOMS: A wheelchair-accessible and gender-neutral bathroom is located in the hallway North of the lower auditorium. It can be accessed by the elevator near the office or any of the stairways and is available to all 24 / 7. The Childcare and Nursery have full and exclusive use of the washrooms in the lower hallway Monday to Friday 7:00 AM to 6:00 PM. The use of the lower Narthex washrooms is for church use 24 / 7 plus the lower hallway washrooms may be used by all on evenings and weekends when the childcare and nursery are closed.

Stained-Glass Windows Special fundraising appeal

We are filled with gratitude for your generosity in our Special Appeal for the Stained Glass Window. Although we have not yet reached the goal of \$4500, we are SO close that the parts to do the repair have been ordered, and as soon as they arrive, the installation will occur. We are still hoping that this will be in time for Christmas.

If you have not yet donated to this project, but would like to, we will gratefully accept your donation to get us across the finish line.

Our sincerest thanks to you all!!

Make sure to subscribe to our weekly eblast to know what is happening in the Church community!

<https://standrewsriverheights.com/news-4/newsletter/>



OUR LAND - We remember, as we celebrate God's presence in Worship that St. Andrew's River Heights United Church gathers in Treaty 1 land, the traditional territory of the Anishinaabe, Cree, Oji-Cree, and Dakota peoples and in the heart of the Metis Nation. As Treaty people, we seek to live with respect on this land, and live in peace and friendship with all our relations.

A New Heaven and a New Earth

GATHERING MUSIC: *Forth in Thy name, O Lord I go*
(Song 34) arr. C. V. Stanford

WELCOME & WORK OF THE CHURCH

CENTERING WORDS

HYMN: **VU678** *For the Healing of the Nations*

INVITATION TO WORSHIP: *The Abingdon Worship Annual 2025*, written by Kirsten Linford.

I am about to create new heavens and a new earth.

Thus says our God, the Holy One.

Be glad and rejoice in this new creation.

Celebrate all that is coming to you.

For your weeping shall be met with rejoicing.

And your suffering will be overtaken by new life.

You shall build homes and live in them;

plant gardens and eat from them.

Whenever you call, I will answer.

When you cry out, I will come.

Heaven and earth will be filled with my peace.

Everything will become a new creation.

LIGHTING OF THE CHRIST CANDLE

PRAYER

CHILDREN'S TIME

HYMN: **VU166** *Joy Comes with the Dawn*

PRAYER OF CONFESSION: *The Abingdon Worship Annual 2025*, written by Kirsten Linford.

O God, we want to be strong, but sometimes we find that difficult.

We hold onto our worries and fears, rather than be comforted by you.

We want to have courage to speak up when we see injustices in our world, but sometimes we find it hard.

When the world falls apart around us, we do not know where to start to help heal it.

Help us to trust in you and in your ways.

Help us not to give in to despair, for you are just waiting to bring new life. Amen.

WORDS OF ASSURANCE

ANTHEM: *It Is Well With My Soul* (Horatio Spafford, text; Philip Bliss, music; arr. Craig Cassils)
When peace like a river attendeth my way,
When sorrow like sea billows roll;
Whatever my lot, Thou hast taught me to say
It is well, it is well with my soul.

Though Satan should buffet, though trials should come,
Let this blest assurance control:
That Christ has regarded my helpless estate,
And hath shed His own blood for my soul.

My sin, oh, the bliss of this glorious thought!
My sin, not in part, but the whole,
It is nailed to the cross, and I bear it no more.
Praise the Lord, praise the Lord, O my soul.

O Lord, haste the day when my faith shall be sight,
The heavens be rolled back as a scroll.
The trumpets shall sound, and the Lord shall descend;
Even so, it is well with my soul.

SCRIPTURE READING: Isaiah 65:17-25 read by
George Antony-Shariff
This is the word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God**

SOLO: Katy Harmer - *A New Creed* (United Church of Canada, text; Richard Hall, music)
We are not alone, we live in God's world.
We believe in God: who has created and is creating,
Who has come in Jesus, the Word made flesh,
To reconcile and make new,
Who works in us and others by the Spirit.

We trust in God.

We are called to be the Church:
To celebrate God's presence,
To love and serve others,
To seek justice and resist evil,
To proclaim Jesus, crucified and risen,
Our judge and our hope.

In life, in death, in life beyond death,
God is with us.
We are not alone.
Thanks be to God.

SERMON

HYMN: **VU713** *I See a New Heaven*

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE:
In the midst of all of this, **we see a new heaven, a new earth.**

THE LORD'S PRAYER

OFFERING/OFFERTORY: *Soliloquy* Healey Willan

OFFERING/OFFERTORY SUNG RESPONSE: *There's Enough for All* (Words and music: Bryan Moyer Suderman)

♪ **There's enough for all if we would learn to share it,**
there's enough for all, oh help us to believe.
There's enough for all. Let's bring our loaves and fishes,
and offer them to Jesus. There's more than enough for you and me. ♪

OFFERTORY PRAYER

BLESSING

BENEDICTION: *May the Peace of Christ Be with You* (words & music by Izumi Shiota, additional text by Lori Tru)

♪ **May the peace of Christ be with you.**
May the love of Christ dwell deep in your heart.
May the Spirit enlighten your way.
May you live in the comfort of God's care. ♪

POSTLUDE: *Gavotte in B flat major* G. F. Handel

Music Note

In 1873, Horatio Spafford's wife and four daughters left Chicago for a trip to France, aboard the *Ville de Havre*. Tragically, it collided with another ship in the Atlantic and sank in 12 minutes, with Spafford's wife as the only survivor from their family. He wrote "It Is Well With My Soul" as he crossed the ocean on the next possible ship. Philip Bliss, a friend of the family, composed the tune for Spafford's words, and named it *VILLE DE HAVRE*. This arrangement is by Manitoba composer Craig Cassils.

Announcements

Bible Study is on Wednesday mornings at 9:30am-10:30am in the lounge. We will be studying together, Colossians 1:11-20. All are welcome to attend

A service of remembrance for **Samm Brown** will be held on Friday, November 21st, at the Elm Cemetery at 3:00 p.m. All are welcome to attend.

Travelers From Afar is the Christmas Play for the children and youth for 2025. The children will be practicing in Sunday School and pre-recording on Sunday, December 14th, after the Church service. Any children or youth interested in participating, please talk with Jan Demeduk, the Sunday School Superintendent.

Sunday Recital Series: Lieder der Liebe

The section leaders of the St. Andrews River Heights Choir invite you to join us at our upcoming Sunday Recital on November 16th at 12pm in the sanctuary. Enjoy a selection of German art songs featuring our section leaders (and friends)! Free admission, with donations gratefully accepted. Envelopes will be available for those who need a tax receipt.

The St. Andrew's River Heights United Church Book Club will be reading *Frying Plantain* by Zalika Reid-Benta. The book is a collection of short stories chronicling the experience of a Jamaican-Canadian girl as she finds her identity between two cultures. The group will discuss the book at their next meeting, **Wednesday, November 19th, at 1:30pm**, in the church lounge. If you would like to join the group, extra copies of the book are available from Ruth McKenzie.

The Outreach Speaker Series is back!

Sunday, November 23rd, at 9am in the lounge.
Positive Spaces

With Deanne Bennet, who attends St Andrew's. This is an opportunity to learn ways to live out our affirming ministry with intention and action.

The ABC Group is having a Christmas Potluck Luncheon on Tuesday, November 25th at 12pm in the lounge.

Wreaths are for sale! Pre-order yours today! All proceeds go to the 1JustCity program at Augustine Centre. Order forms are at the back of the church or you can also contact the church office if you would like to pre-order. Wreaths are \$35; cash, cheque and e-Transfer are accepted. The wreaths make a great gift for neighbours, friends and family. The wreaths are expected to arrive late November or early December. Please consider supporting this outreach fundraiser.

The outreach group will be collecting socks for 1JustCity, Just a Warm Sleep/ JAWS. Bring a pair of new socks and leave them in the box. Our donation of socks 🧦 last year was really appreciated and is still one of the most needed items for their guests. **Socks update! We have collected 196 pairs of socks.** Can we collect 200? Thank you so much for your support!

Board Game Night, Sunday, December 7th at 7:00pm in the Lounge. Everyone in their 20s-40s is welcome! Bring a game to share. Contact Katy for more information.

ST. ANDREW'S CONTACT LIST

Our heartfelt thanks go out to everyone who helped with today's service—we couldn't have pulled it off without you.

Thank you to our singers, soloist, Katy Harmer and our scripture reader, George-Anthony Shariff.

Clergy	Rev. Karen Lumley	klumley@standrewsriverheights.com
Choir Director	Katy Harmer	music@standrewsriverheights.com
Organist	Wes Elias	weselias.mail@gmail.com
Sunday School	Jan Demeduk	j.demeduk@hotmail.com
Council Chair	Rob Siddall	rgs123@mymts.net
Treasurer	Bill Craddock	wjcdlc@mymts.net
Church Office	Charlotte Lindsay	office@standrewsriverheights.com

Cookie Walk December 6th & 7th, 2025

Boxes will be prepackaged and each box will contain 3 dozen homemade cookies consisting of shortbread and an assortment of cookies.

The price per box is \$20.00.

To order cookies, please complete the order form available at the back of the church or contact Charlotte in the church office.

Cookies will be available for pick up on Saturday, December 6th from 10:00 to 11:00am or Sunday, December 7th after the service.

Order early as quantities are limited. All orders must be prepaid before pickup.

Note to all Council and Interest group members: We require your support to make this a successful event. Please sign up to make 10 dozen cookies.

To the congregation: We need your continued support to help to make this event a success. All donations are welcome.

Please deliver the cookies to the church upstairs kitchen on Thursday, December 4th. Please add your name to the sign-up sheet at the back of the church.

Memory Tree December 14th, 2025

Be part of the Memory Tree Tradition at St. Andrew's this Advent season. The Memory Tree Service will be a part of the Sunday morning service on December 14th. The lights will be lit after the morning service. A reception will be held after church upstairs. Come and join us for this special Memory Tree Service and Reception.

This is a marvellous way for the community to dedicate lights in memory of deceased family members and friends.

Memory Tree lights can be purchased by contacting Charlotte in the church office, or by completing the order form available at the back of the church.

Each light is \$10.00 and represents the person that you wish to remember. You will also receive a beautiful keepsake card for each light you purchase.

Their name will be permanently displayed in the Memory Book in the Narthex. The order forms must be received by December 7th to ensure the name/s are included in the Memory Book.

All proceeds go to Jocelyn House Hospice.

Tax receipts will also be mailed out. We look forward to seeing everyone.

Walks on Tuesdays with Westworth continue every week at 1pm. If you would like to be informed about the routes of these walks and would like to have your email provided to the organizers, please let the church office know.

YOUR GIFTS MATTER.

Get the benefits of a Tax Receipt for your Donation! Let us know who you are and sign up for PAR. Pre-authorized remittances throughout the year make it easy to donate to the United Church.

Donations are always accepted either through your weekly giving envelopes, the weekly worship offering, through E-transfer by contacting Bill Craddock, our Treasurer at 204-488-1130 just leave a message on the phone and Bill will return it, or can be dropped off at any time through the church office.

Check out our website for more information and forms. The church is very grateful for any and all donations. Thank you so much.

Coming Up...

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 16

Sunday Recital Series (sanctuary) @ 12pm

Rental—Erica Schultz (sanctuary) @ 2pm

Rental—Katherine Mayba (sanctuary) @ 6pm

MONDAY, NOVEMBER 17

Rental—AFG (lounge) @ 7pm

TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 18

Council meeting (board room) @ 7:30pm

WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 19

Bible study (lounge) @ 9:30am

Book club (lounge) @ 1:30pm

Rental—River City Sound (auditorium) @ 5:15pm

Rental—Joy Cooper (lounge) @ 6pm

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 20

Rental—Charmaine Bacon (sanctuary) @ 4pm

Handbell choir practice (lounge) @ 6pm

